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SCOTT ANNOUNCES HIGHLAND PARK PUBLIC SAFETY AGREEMENT

State Senator dubs agreement "a new beginning for Highland Park"

LANSING--Dubbing it a new beginning for the entire community, State Senator Martha G. Scott (D-Highland Park) announced a milestone agreement has been reached on the issue of public safety in Highland Park. Under the new agreement, announced this afternoon during a press conference held by the Senator Scott, Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano, and Highland Park officials, Wayne County deputies will assume a much greater role in law enforcement in Highland Park.

"The issue of public safety in Highland Park has been a concern to everyone in the community for some time now," Senator Scott said. "This agreement will finally put the law enforcement crisis behind us and allow Highland Park to move forward."

Senator Scott has been working tirelessly for months to work out an agreement with county and local officials on Highland Park public safety. Under the new agreement, Wayne County will regularly deploy deputies in Highland Park to augment local law enforcement efforts. The term of the new agreement is July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2007.

"The uncertainty regarding the public safety issue has seriously handicapped our efforts to draw new homeowners and businesses into Highland Park," Senator Scott said. "Highland Park has a renewed confidence in the future of our community thanks to this agreement."